

## New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs State Board of Dentistry 124 Halsey Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102 VIA CERTIFIED (RRR) AND REGULAR MAIL

Attorney General

THOMAS R. CALCAGNI

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 45005

Acting Director

Newark, NJ 07101 (973) 504-6405

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

Governor

April 7, 2011

Ronald Saglimbene, D.M.D. C/o Stephen Schechner, Esq. 155 Morris Avenue, Suite 203 Springfield, NJ 07081

RECEIVED AND FILED WITH THE N.J. BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Re:

Settlement Letter in Lieu of Formal Disciplinary Proceedings in Complaint # 66368

Dear Dr. Saglimbene:

This letter is to advise you that the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry ( the "Board" ) has had an opportunity to review information concerning the above captioned patient complaint. Specifically, the information reviewed included:

- 1. A copy of the complaints;
- 2. A copy of your response to the complaints;
- 3. A transcript of your appearance before the Board on February 16, 2011.

Based upon the Board's review of this matter, the Board has found that:

- 1. You did not extract the tooth that the patient had been referred to you for extraction.
- 2. The patient record fails to support the rationale for the extraction of the tooth you extracted.
- 3. The extraction you did perform was done without the use of adequate diagnostic tools.
- 4. The patient presented the very next day with the same symptoms, which were relieved when the symptomatic tooth was extracted.
- 5. As a result of the extraction you performed, the patient incurred additional costs that would not have been incurred otherwise.

The above noted deficiencies constitute repeated acts of negligence and may be sufficient to initiate the filing of formal disciplinary proceedings, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c). However, the Board has determined that it will first offer you an opportunity to settle this matter, through your agreement to the following:

- 1. Pay a penalty of \$500.00 for failing to keep accurate and complete patient records.
- 2. Accept the Board's advice that, in the future, you should always utilize adequate diagnostic tools prior to performing extractions.

If you are willing to settle this matter on the offered settlement terms, you may do so by signing the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter, and returning it to the Board office. The penalty may be paid by a check or money order made payable to the "State of New Jersey - Board of Dentistry" and should be submitted to the Board office. You should be advised that upon receipt of your signed acknowledgment, this letter will be a matter of public record.

In the event you are unwilling to settle this matter on the offered terms, it will be referred to the Attorney General's office for the initiation of an appropriate enforcement action. In such event, you will be afforded an opportunity to defend against the alleged violations. If an evidentiary hearing is deemed warranted, the Board will either conduct that hearing at a date and time to be scheduled or refer the matter to the Office of Administrative Law. You are advised, however, that in the event formal charges are filed, the Board may assess civil penalties in an amount greater than those offered in settlement here, should any charges against you be sustained. Additionally, the Board may, if the facts are found to so warrant, enter an order requiring you to reimburse certain monies and/or requiring you to pay the additional costs incurred by the Board. Should you have any questions concerning this letter or the settlement offer herein, I suggest that you contact Deputy Attorney General Nancy Costello Miller, who may be reached at (973) 648-2500.

If you elect to settle this matter, you should sign the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter and return it to the Board within ten (10) days following your receipt of this letter. In the event that the Board receives no response from you within ten (10) days, the Board's settlement offer will be withdrawn, and the matter will be referred to the Attorney General's Office for the initiation of appropriate enforcement proceedings.

Sincerely,

STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Johathan Eisenmenger

Executive Director

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT:** I, Dr. Ronald Saglimbene, hereby acknowledge that I have read and reviewed the settlement proposal set forth in the above letter. I acknowledge the conduct which has been charged. I am aware that by signing this acknowledgment, I am waiving any rights I may have to defend myself against any charges of wrongdoing at an administrative hearing. I am also aware that the action taken against me by the Board herein is a matter of public record, and that this letter is a public document. I hereby agree to comply with the directives noted herein. I will submit to the Board:

- 1. Pay a penalty of \$500.00 for failing to keep accurate and complete patient records.
- 2. Accept the Board's advice that, in the future, you should always utilize adequate diagnostic tools prior to performing extractions.

Ronald Saglimbene, D.M.D.